

## Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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R 161405Z JAN 75  
FM USMISSION NATO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9573  
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

S E C R E T USNATO 0169

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR, NATO GR  
SUBJECT: NEGOTIATIONS ON GREEK-NATO SECURITY RELATIONSHIP

REF: STATE 008361

1. AMBASSADOR MET WITH SYG LUNS JANUARY 15 TO DISCUSS FORTH-COMING NEGOTIATIONS ON GREEK-NATO SECURITY RELATIONSHIP. ALSO PRESENT WERE DEPUTY SYG PANSAS AND DIRECTOR OF CABINET VAN CAMPEN.
2. AMBASSADOR DREW FULLY ON INSTRUCTIONS IN REFTEL, LEAVING COPY OF TALKING POINTS WITH SYG.
3. SYG RESPONDED THAT US POINT ABOUT LACK OF NEED FOR RAPID ALLIED RESPONSE TO GREEK NOTE OF EARLY DECEMBER WAS EXACTLY SAME AS HIS INSTRUCTIONS TO HIS OFFICIALS. SYG ALSO AGREED COMPLETELY WITH NEED FOR CONTINUING CLOSE CONSULTATIONS WITH US, SAYING NATO CANNOT TAKE ANY STEPS WITHOUT CONSULTING US.
4. SYG SAID HE HAD TALKED WITH GREEK AMBASSADOR THEODOROPoulos TWICE SINCE RECEIVING GREEK NOTE. HE FELT THIS WAS NECESSARY TO AVOID POSSIBILITY GREEKS COULD LATER CHARGE THAT NATO HAD WASHED ITS HANDS OF PROBLEM. SYG CHARACTERIZED TALKS AS LOW-KEYED. FIRST DISCUSSION WAS TOWARD END OF DECEMBER, SECOND AT BEGINNING OF JANUARY. AT SECOND MEETING, THEODOROPoulos SAID ATHENS WAS  
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NOT IN ANY PARTICULAR HURRY.

5. ON JANUARY 14, GREEK AMBASSADOR REPORTED HE WOULD BE RETURNING TO ATHENS FOR CONSULTATION ON JANUARY 16 AND REQUESTED OPPORTUNITY TO DIS-

CUSS ISSUE WITH SYG OR NATO OFFICIALS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE. SYG WAS BUSY SO THEODOROPoulos MET WITH DEPUTY SYG PANSA ON AFTERNOON OF JANUARY 14. SYG THEN READ FROM D/SYG'S MEMCON.

6. THEODOROPoulos ASKED PANSA IF NATO HAD ANY DEFINITE IDEAS YET. PANSA REPLIED YES, BUT THESE WERE NOT YET FINALIZED BY DPC. PANSA WAS REMINDED THEODOROPoulos THAT NATO POLICY FROM BEGINNING WAS NOT TO MAKE THINGS DIFFICULT FOR GOG AND THAT NATO IS WILLING TO LEAVE DECISIONS ON SIZE AND TIMING OF STEPS TO ATHENS.

7. THEODOROPoulos THEN TOLD PANSA THAT GOG IS THINKING OF PROCEEDING BY WAY OF PARALLEL DISCUSSIONS ON ALL OF VARIOUS PROBLEMS AREAS. THESE DISCUSSIONS WOULD THEN BE PULLED TOGETHER AS PACKAGE DEAL BEFORE DECISION PROCESS. PANSA SAID HE POINTED OUT THAT PROBLEM MIGHT ARISE IN AREA OF INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM AS DECISIONS ON FUNDING MIGHT ARISE BEFORE FINAL PACKAGE IS COMPLETED. PANSA ALSO SAID IT MIGHT NOT BE POSSIBLE TO MAINTAIN PRESENT NPG ARRANGEMENTS OVER LONG PERIOD. PANSA SAID HE WANTED TO STRESS INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM AND NPG AS THESE WERE STRONG LEVERS FOR NATO TO USE.

8. IN RESPONSE TO GREEK AMBASSADOR'S QUESTION, PANSA TOLD HIM FINAL DECISION WOULD BY DPC, ALTHOUGH DPC WOULD DELEGATE TECHNICAL MILITARY SUBJECTS TO OTHER GROUPS.

9. THEODOROPoulos TOLD PANSA HE WOULD BE PREPARED TO MEET AGAIN WHEN HE RETURNED FROM ATHENS WHICH, PANSA THOUGHT, WOULD BE AFTER THREE OR FOUR DAYS.

10. SYG LUNS SAID HE PREPARED PO ON PROBLEMS INVOLVED IN INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM WHICH HE WOULD CIRCULATE SOON. SYG THEN CONSIDERED IDEA OF ADDITIONAL POLITICAL PAPER TO ALLIES REPORTING DISCUSSIONS THUS FAR AND EXPLAINING GOG PLAN FOR PARALLEL DISCUSSIONS ON ALL PROBLEM AREAS AS RELATED TO D/SYG PANSA. SYG WOULD ALSO POINT OUT THAT PROBLEM OF INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING IS ONLY URGENT QUESTION;  
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HE SAID DECISION IS NECESSARY PRIOR TO END OF JANUARY.

11. AMBASSADOR SUGGESTED THAT RATHER THAN GO INTO SUCH DETAILS, IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE TO SAY THAT SHOULD PRESSURE DEVELOP FOR RESPONSE TO GREEK NOTE, ALLIES SHOULD RESPOND BY ASKING GOG TO SPECIFY FURTHER STEPS IT WISHES TO TAKE AND HOW IT SEES EVOLUTION OF ITS SECURITY RELATIONSHIP WITH NATO.

12. SYG AGREED, SAYING, "IF GOVERNMENT AS INTERESTED AS US IS WILLING TO GO SLOW, THEN WE MUST FORCE ALLIES TO ALSO GO SLOW." SYG THEN DECIDED AGAINST IDEA OF CIRCULATING POLITICAL PAPER TO ALLIES, FEELING THIS WOULD ONLY FORCE THEM TO MAKE DECISIONS ON ISSUE  
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